

EDITED BY  
WM. M. OVERTON, CH. MAURICE SMITH,  
AND BEVERLY TUCKER.  
CITY OF WASHINGTON.

JUNE 22, 1854.

O. H. P. STEWART, is our authorized agent for collecting accounts due this office, and for obtaining new subscribers in Virginia.

GEORGE W. MEASON is our authorized agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements in Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria.

We are greatly pleased to learn that Senator Wright, of New Jersey, is recovering from his recent severe illness, and expected to resume his seat in the Senate in the course of a week or ten days.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, the naval reform bill was further amended and passed. The bill to satisfy the claims of the creditors of the late republic of Texas, was recommitted to the Committee on Finance.

The insane land bill was further debated by Messrs. Toucey and Bell, the latter of whom had not concluded when the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives apologies for a breach of the decorum of that body were severally made by Messrs. Churchill and Cullom, growing out of the proceedings of Tuesday, in which they took part.

A message was received from the President of the United States informing the House that Mexico has agreed to the Senate's amendments to the Gadsden treaty, and asking an appropriation of ten millions of dollars to carry the same into effect.

The general appropriation bill was considered in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

## THE TREATY WITH MEXICO.

The reader will find in our congressional columns a message from the President, announcing that the government of Mexico has agreed to the project of the Senate of the United States.

Occupying a confidential position towards the Senate, we have carefully abstained from making any mention of the Mexican treaty. In the beginning, experienced members of the Senate advised us, not only to avoid comments on proposed treaties, but even to abstain from quoting the remarks of other papers with regard thereto. Thus far we have, as our readers will testify, followed that advice most strictly.

But now the executive has made its communication to the House of Representatives. That communication is public, and is published by us. Yet we cannot say more than the message says. That announces that the United States stipulate to pay to Mexico \$7,000,000 on the exchange of ratifications, and a further sum of \$3,000,000 when the boundaries of the ceded territory shall be settled. What those boundaries are, the papers accompanying the President's message may specify. But without the assurance that they are thus made public, we feel that we cannot speak of them, much less discuss them.

## THE MISSION OF DEMOCRACY.

The opinion prevails that one of the dire results which will follow in the wake of existing fanaticism is the dissolution of parties as now composed, and the erection on their ruins of sectional organizations. Such a result we would deplore as fatal to the success and the very existence of the Union, but we see no reason to entertain such an opinion. In our last paper we referred to the probable schism of the whig party, but we attributed it to the existence of the diverse elements of which that party was composed, to the fact that two great principles of construction were pursued by the same party; the one based upon a latitudinous construction of the Constitution and thereby strengthening the federal government, which is but its creature; the other attempting by a strict construction of that instrument to maintain the sovereignty of the States, and to check the growing power of their central agent. But when parties are formed merely upon a sectional and not a constitutional basis; when the general welfare is made subordinate to local policy, and when enlarged patriotism yields to mere sectional prejudice and fanaticism, then indeed would we apprehend the destruction of a government, which would be less a subject of regret, because of its failure to achieve the objects for which it was organized. To heal these dissensions, to allay the storm of sectional strife, and to cling to the Constitution as the only ark of safety in that impending storm, is the high mission of the democratic party. And never was there a time when that party should keep its eye so steadily fixed upon the mark of its high calling than now when it may be tempted astray by the allurements of power, and the corruption that so often flows from brilliant success.

In the short space of sixty-seven years there have been three periods when the Union was threatened with destruction, each manifesting itself in a different way, but all due to the same great principle of federalism. On each of these occasions the principles of the democratic party restored peace to the troubled country, and hope and confidence to the statesman and patriot. The alien and sedition laws, during the dangerous administration of the elder Adams, gave rise to that great code of democratic principles, the resolutions of '98 and '99; the new testament of our faith, which came not to destroy but to fulfil the Constitution. In the history of that period it is to be found one of the striking characteristics of the republican party. The establishment of a great principle has ever been held by them paramount to the mere settlement of an existing difficulty; and thus the rent made in the Constitution, by those great twin monsters of which we have spoken, was not merely patched up by a compromise applicable alone to the then present crisis, but was thoroughly repaired by the promulgation and adoption of a principle of construction, which has been found applicable through all succeeding difficulties.

Again, when the tariff of 1828—"the bill of abominations"—with its unjust discriminations against one section of our country, threatened the destruction of the Union, the dissension was healed by an adjustment which promised

to the democracy the gradual adoption of her favorite principle of free trade.

The third great epoch in the progress of the destructive element was the systematic attack made, first by individuals, then by the press, then by abolition associations, then in the halls of Congress against a domestic institution, peculiar to the southern States, until now the halls of legislation, the press, the pulpit, and the private parlor have all become the arena on which the great battle against slavery is fought.

In advertising again to this important but hackneyed subject, we feel it due to our northern friends to say that we speak of it not in the spirit of sectionalism, but as a manifestation of the same dangerous principle of federal aggression. Although from the fact of our southern birth and southern education, we may feel a deeper interest in that question than can be expected from our northern supporters; and although we have no hesitation in saying here and elsewhere, now and always, that we believe its existence to be favorable to the cause of national freedom, and indispensable to conservatism, yet we wish not to speak of it as partisans. If we know ourselves, we would oppose with just as much sincerity, and just as much feeling any manifestation of this destructive principle of centralism in institutions and interests peculiar to any other section of the Union.

We take this question then as an illustration of the position which we have assumed, that the triumph of the Constitution over sectionalism, of truth over prejudice, of peace over discord, has been due in the highest degree to the soundness of the democratic party. As a proof of this, we appeal to the facts developed in Congress during this controversy in all its stages, to the large proportion of northern democrats who have supported with laudable fidelity the principles of the Constitution, and the almost universal opposition to those principles as manifested by northern whigs. In the late struggle upon the territorial bill providing a government for Nebraska and Kansas, the fact was shown in an eminent degree. Every supporter of that measure from the free States was a member of the democratic party.

The greatest danger to the republican party springs from its own immense power. It requires the greatest vigilance on the part of the true friends of its principles to prevent the corruption which is so often the result of power. A frequent recurrence to its fundamental doctrines, is the only means of keeping it pure and unspotted. The immense patronage of government, is a weapon in the hands of power, with which it may overawe even the stoutest opposition, and hence, it may sometimes happen, that while the great policy of our party has ever been "principles, not man," yet elevated to power, position and patronage, the maxim is reversed, and a blind flattery of the man overcomes a steadfast adherence to the principles.

Our guide in all our action in this respect is that set forth in our prospectus. But while "we will not be ambitious to commend ourselves to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers" it will ever be a source of unfeigned gratification to honor and commend them as the representatives of the principles which elevated them to office.

## SECURITY OF PERSON.

One of the most crying evils of the day, perhaps the very worst within reach of the law, is the disregard of personal security. The papers, all over the Union, habitually teem with accounts of assaults and batteries, the most audacious and brutal outrages and unprovoked attacks upon individuals. The records of punishment, in comparison, are as one to a thousand, and of those upon whom any punishment is inflicted, it is usually so light as rather to incite than to deter, and of even these few, a majority, a large majority, are speedily pardoned and let loose on society, and we habitually see the same party repeatedly taken up, imprisoned, and pardoned, again and again.

The punishment for stealing an old shoe, or old clothes, or even a morsel of bread to avert starvation, is a long and severe imprisonment, and is usually most rigorously enforced, and the parties allowed to serve out their full time. But for assaults, alike wholly unprovoked and brutal and dangerous, we constantly see inflicted the slight punishment of a fine of a few dollars and costs.

Where is the person who would not rather be robbed of almost anything rather than be knocked down, trampled upon, and beaten to a jelly. The revolting and disgusting offences, besides the danger to life and limb, and the suffering it inflicts, carries with it such a sense of degradation, that any one who will shoot down, like a dog, any one thus making an attack, will be justified by any jury and by public opinion. It is a fate most richly deserved; and the world is well rid of a human hyena. But people generally are not prepared thus summarily and deservingly to punish such villains.

We had at one time intended to collect and publish a list of assaults and the responsibility to which the guilty parties were held, but we found that the records of a single year would make a large volume.

There is no evil in the country which calls so imperatively for prompt and efficient legislation everywhere, providing the most severe penalties for personal assaults, and excluding from the executives the right of pardon.

The horrible extent and frequency of rowdiness, can only be quelled by the severest punishment in every case. We have seen sentence passed upon a party for an assault alike villainous, unprovoked, and brutal, of a trifling fine and cost. We were almost tempted to offer the scoundrel twice the amount of the fine imposed, to waylay and assault the judge precisely as he had done to the party for assaulting whom he had been sentenced. We wished to see how the judge would consider the matter, when the man should say to him, after having beaten him almost to death, that as his honor had fixed the price for just such an assault at the few dollars fine he had imposed, he thought he would continue to indulge in the luxury of beating men, while it could be done at so cheap a rate.

We wish we could induce the press everywhere to take up this question of predominant evil and make the person of every citizen at least as sacred from outrage, as is his old shoe from theft.

The list of outrageous attacks by rowdies upon

persons passing indiscriminately, without provocation or cause, before having seen the parties, is daily increasing.

The person of every citizen should be sacred, and protected by laws alike efficient in the execution and in the enforcement.

Whoever attacks another does so at his peril, and it is better that ten be shot dead in the attempt than that the person of a citizen be desecrated by brutal outrage.

## SOUTHERN SENTIMENT.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday publishes the following article from the New Orleans Bulletin:

"The Washington Sentinel of the 7th tries to throw ridicule upon the selections made by the National Intelligencer, from many southern journals opposed to the Nebraska bill, headed 'southern sentiment.' Says the Sentinel: 'The Intelligencer knows, and every body knows, that southern sentiment is in favor of the Nebraska bill, warmly and cordially in favor of it.'"

Our Washington Nebraska contemporary or defeat would have produced no wide-spread excitement. Indeed, we believe the slaveholders of the south would have preferred its defeat. We believe we are perfectly safe in saying that we represent, editorially, more planters than all of the Washington papers put together, and we have yet to meet one who does not look upon the introduction of the Nebraska bill as ill-timed, ill-advised, and injudicious, if not positively wrong. Congress can go to work and repeal the Nebraska bill, and there will be no indignation among slaveholders, no excitement, not a blintz of the agitation that its passage has created among the abolitionists of the north. The political traders might attempt to raise a breeze, but they would fail just as signally as they did in attempting to get up enthusiasm in favor of the Nebraska bill."

As the Bulletin volunteers to take up the cudgels in aid of the Intelligencer, it was natural that we should expect it to bring some new facts, some strong arguments and some convincing proofs into the discussion. But strange to say, it rashly leaps unarmed and unequipped into the contest. It seems to be so incautious as to leave its shillalah at home.

The Bulletin very preposterously denies our assertion that the south warmly and cordially sustained the Nebraska bill, and declares that "the very opposite is the case." Now, we gave some reasons for our opinion, and pointed to evidences of the correctness of that opinion. We said that nearly all of the southern newspapers came out in support of the Nebraska bill. We acknowledged that there were some exceptions which were "few and far between." But there was another and more satisfactory test to which we pointed—the vote of the southern members of the two Houses of Congress. Now, the representatives of the people are generally, it is fair to suppose, as true exponents of the feelings, wishes, and convictions of their constituents as can be found, and when nearly all of the southern representatives in Congress voted, worked, and spoke for Nebraska, in conjunction with nine-tenths of the southern journals, it certainly is not rash to say, and say with emphasis, that "southern sentiment is warmly and cordially in favor of the bill."

This, however, the Bulletin denies, and it declares that the very opposite is the case. It makes the emphatic and unqualified declaration, but does not assign one solitary reason for so believing. It says "its introduction fell coldly upon the southern public." Where is the proof of this? Is the mere *ipse dixit* of the Bulletin to be taken in preference to all the strong proofs to which we refer?

The Bulletin expresses the opinion that "the slave holders of the south would have preferred its defeat." It does not give the grounds of this belief. It does not present its readers with one single fact, reason, or circumstance on which the opinion is founded. Then, we ask, what is the value of such an unsupported opinion? Literally nothing.

But the most objectionable part of the Bulletin's article is the concluding paragraph, in which it takes no pains to conceal its wish for the repeal of the bill, and encourages the abolitionists, freesoilers, and incendiaries, to persist in their best effort, in that behalf, by saying that it will create no indignation and no excitement among slave holders.

We are sorry that our neighbor, the Intelligencer, has thought fit to copy, and to copy in editorial type, this article of the Bulletin. We are forced to the conclusion that it endorses it and adopts its opinions. If so, then the question which we respectfully propounded to the Intelligencer, a few days since, as to whether it favored or opposed the repeal of the bill, is answered.

In all respect and gentleness, we would ask the Bulletin how happens it that it is the peculiar privileged and authorized spokesman of the south? Why is its almost solitary voice to be heeded in preference to the united voice of the southern press? Why does it claim to be a better exponent of southern sentiment, than the great body of the Representatives in Congress from that section of the Union? The Bulletin, if it hopes to impress others with the correctness of its opinions, must deal in something stronger than gratuitous assertion and empty declamation. We do not doubt that it honestly entertains the opinions it expresses—but it is grossly and egregiously mistaken.

The New York Times of the 20th publishes a speech recently delivered by the distinguished missionary, Dr. Duff, before the General Assembly of the Scotch Church, at Edinburgh. The speech (says the Times) embraces a very full report of his visit to the United States, with remarks upon the various incidents and characteristics which fell under his notice—especially of those relating to the progress of education, religion, and general culture. The doctor's opinions of this country are, in the highest degree flattering; he seems, indeed, to have found nothing among us sufficiently defective to elicit his censure. We are probably not to infer that he approved of everything he saw, but that he had the kindness and good taste to dwell only upon those points which he deemed worthy of commendation. Those who heard him while in this country, do not need to be reminded that he is a man of extraordinary ability and eloquence. His speech at Edinburgh seems to have been one of his ablest and most successful efforts.

## A NEW TYPE-SETTING MACHINE.

A letter from Copenhagen, under date of May 18, thus describes a new, important, and wonderful invention. The writer says:

"Going to the politeness of the editors, I have now been able to see the new composing machine as in actual operation in the office of the *Fædrelandet*. Instead of the usual cases and composing sticks, and the compositor standing at his work, we see a person sitting before a machine with keys like a piano, which he plays on incessantly, and every touch on the tangent is followed by a click; the letter is already in its place in the long mahogany channel prepared for the use of the compositor. The whole is exceedingly ingenious. In fact it is a fairy work. The most wonderful part is, that it distributes the already used type at the same time that it sets the new page, and with an exactness perfectly sure. No mistake can ever occur. The compositor, by this machine, does four times as much work as another workman, but as he requires an assistant to line and page the set, this brings it to twice the amount of type set. The whole is so clean and pleasant, that it will probably soon be a favorite employment for women. The machine occupies a very small space, not more than a large chair, and is beautifully made of hard woods, brass, and steel. Its success is now beyond all doubt. The proprietors of the *Fædrelandet* are so gratified by the use of it, they have already ordered another. The price is 2,400 Danish dollars. It will last apparently for a century or two without repair. Mr. Sorensen, the inventor, himself a compositor all his life, kindly shows the machine to any visitor. Of course a compositor cannot set with this machine at once; it will take him a short time, a few days, but he is then a gentleman compared to his old comrades."

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A DEFENCE OF THE "ECLIPSE OF FAITH."—Being a rejoinder to Professor Newman's Faith. Also a Reply to the "Eclipse of Faith," by Francis Wm. Newman. Published by Crosby, Nicholas & Co., Boston. For sale by Taylor & Maury.

TURKEY AND THE TURKS, and Cruise in the Black Sea. By Adolphus Slade, (Maschaver Pacha.) Admiral of the Turkish fleet. Published by Wm. Taylor & Co., New York. For sale by Joe Shillington.

This book is peculiarly interesting at the present time. The author's long residence in the east has made him familiar with every phrase of the Turkish character, and by the assistance of this work the reader will be able to judge pretty accurately of the present state of the Ottoman empire. Perhaps the most interesting part of the author's travels is that of his cruise with the Capitan Pacha in the Black Sea; the "chase" of a Russian frigate and corvette, and the author's surprise in the morning at finding the Turkish vessels running away from danger. The whole is, however, extremely interesting.

ALONE. By Marion Harland. Published by A. Morris, Richmond. For sale by Frank Taylor.

A home story, the principal incidents of which are located in the capital of the Old Dominion, and is evidently a description of scenes familiar to the accomplished authoress. It is interesting alike to the general and local reader.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE REVOLUTION. By R. W. Gibbs, M. D. For sale by Taylor & Maury.

This history is compiled from authentic papers and letters relating to the principal incidents of the Revolutionary War, in a cheap form, and should be in every American family. NORTH BRITISH REVIEW for May. For sale by Taylor & Maury, and Frank Taylor. The contents of this number are as follows: Of the Plurality of Worlds; British and Continental Characteristics; The Union with England and Scottish Nationality; Christian Evidences and History; The Art of Education; Ruskin and Architecture; Professor Forbes and Mr. Lloyd in Scandinavia; Auguste Comte and Positivism.

## ITEMS OF NEWS.

HEALTH OF CITIES.—The following statement comprises the deaths in some of the Atlantic cities for the week ending June 10, and their proportion to the population:

	Deaths.	Population.	Proportion.
Boston.....	127	135,750	1 in 1,069
New York.....	408	517,549	1 in 1,269
Philadelphia.....	188	357,000	1 in 561
Baltimore.....	82	109,025	1 in 2,661
Charleston.....	77	42,014	1 in 545
Savannah.....	10	16,000	1 in 1,600

Of the deaths in New York 14 were by cholera and 75 by other diseases of the bowels.

\* Whites, 9; black and colored, 19.

CUBA AND ITS WEALTH.—Cuba, at this time, comprises a population of about 1,400,000. Of this aggregate 500,000 are black, 600,000 of them being slaves, the balance free and comparatively a nuisance. The whole island contains an area of 32,000 square miles—equal to more than 20,000,000 acres, every three of which are capable, with proper cultivation, of producing one hoghead of sugar annually. In 1849 the exports of Cuba amounted to \$28,000,000, and her imports to \$25,000,000; she yielded a revenue of \$13,000,000, and the property of the island was estimated at the value of \$500,000,000. And yet but about one-fifth of the island was supposed to be under cultivation.—*Albany Evening Atlas*.

CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES.—Dr. John B. Trask, who, under the authority of the California legislature, has completed a geological examination of the Sierra Nevada and coast mountains of that State, says that the fears of many that the gold production of the country would be merely temporary, are unfounded and that gold mining has become a permanent employment of the State. He believes that the gold from the mountains and valleys will increase rather than diminish in quantity from year to year, and says that "the permanency of the character of these mines would scarcely have been demonstrated in so short a period of time in any other country or State except California, and is but another mark of that indomitable perseverance in overcoming difficulties, for which they have become peculiarly characterized and proverbial."

AWFUL BEREAVEMENT.—The Philadelphia Inquirer says: We have already alluded to the case of a gentleman now a resident of this city, Mr. William Collins, who lost his wife, seven children, and upwards of twenty thousand dollars, in the steamship City of Glasgow. His agony of mind under these distressing circumstances may well be imagined. For a time he was almost threatened with madness. He is now more composed.

THE GOVERNOR OF HONDURAS has given his approval to the inter-ocean railroad enterprise.

HON. LEWIS CAMP, Jr., was lately married at Rome to Miss Mary Ludlow, of New York.

CARSON'S LETTER AND CAP PARADE.—An additional copy of the letter by W. C. ZANTZINGER.

## Congressional.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Senate—Wednesday, June 21, 1854.

EASTERN BRANCH BRIDGE.

Mr. DAWSON, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, to which was referred the memorial of William Guntton and others, praying a further allowance for the Eastern Branch bridge, sold to the government, reported the same back, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

SHIP CANAL AT NIAGARA.

Mr. SEWARD, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the memorial praying aid in the construction of a ship canal around the Falls of Niagara, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same. He said that, while the committee fully approved of the great work, they were unable to recommend it, as the memorial was not accompanied by the necessary power, as to the manner in which the work should be carried on, and were unable to agree upon any bill. The motion was agreed to.

SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. SEWARD introduced a bill to regulate the navigation and commerce by vessels owned in whole or in part by American citizens, between the Spanish West India Islands and the coast of Africa.

TEXAS CREDITORS.

On motion of Mr. GWIN, the bill to satisfy the claims of the creditors of the late republic of Texas, was recommitted to the Committee on Finance.

STEAMBOAT LAW.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Commerce, to which were referred several memorials on the subject of the steamboat law, reported a bill amendatory of said law.

He explained that the bill created Washington and Oregon Territories, and the State of California into a new inspection district, and also suspended, until the 4th of March next, the ninth section of that law, which required imperatively the use of a certain alloy in the construction of the boilers of steamboats.

The bill was then considered and passed.

JAMES DIXON.

Mr. DAWSON reported a bill for the relief of James Dixon, and the same was considered and passed.

CYRUS M'CORMICK.

Mr. FESSENDEN, from the Committee on Patents, reported a bill for the relief of Cyrus H. M'Cormick.

NAVAL BILL.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to promote the efficiency of the navy. Mr. MALLORY moved several amendments, which were suggested by the objections made by Mr. Dixon, and they were agreed to. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

REVOLUTIONARY ARMY SURGEONS.

Mr. PRATT, on leave introduced a joint resolution in relation to surgeons' mates of the revolutionary army; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

INDIGENT INSANE.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to provide for the several States for the relief of the indigent insane.

Mr. TOUCHEY addressed the Senate for over an hour in opposition to the bill, and in defence of the veto of the President.

Mr. BELL followed in support of the bill, and had not concluded when he yielded the floor to Mr. MASON, on whose motion the bill was postponed.

After a brief executive session,

The Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Mr. HOUSTON reported back from the Committee on the Pre-emptive Right of the Indians, the bill to the Indian appropriation bill, and they were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the clerk containing estimates for the books recently ordered for distribution among members; referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. LETCHER, the Speaker was directed to pay to the widow of J. F. Snodgrass, late a member of the House, from Virginia, the salary and mileage due to him at the time of his death.

On motion of Mr. ELLIOT, of Massachusetts, the Speaker was likewise directed to pay to Z. C. Smith, of the State of New York, the salary and mileage due to him at the time of his death.

[It was stated by Mr. ELLIOT that Mr. Snodgrass, after he left his home, met with an accident in the city of New York, and that he was killed at this moment at a public house in that town.]

REVENUE CUTTERS.

Mr. FULLER said, at an early day of the session the Committee on Commerce reported a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase or contract for four additional revenue cutters, to be stationed on the coast of Texas, to supply the place of that which was recently lost; one for the coast of Texas, and two for the Pacific coast. The committee are in possession of information showing that the public interests are suffering from the want of those cutters; and, therefore, they were desirous of passing the bill.

Mr. COBB objected to the consideration of the bill, saying the committee have reports to make, and it is not interesting to the country and to private citizens.

Mr. FULLER said that for three months he had been making efforts to get this bill before the House.

POST OFFICE COMMISSIONER.

Mr. OLDS, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a resolution authorizing that committee to employ a clerk from the sixth of May last; (the object being to engage him in gathering in a list of all the post routes, to be enacted in one bill.)

MESSRS. CHURCHWELL AND CULLOM.—APOLOGIES.

Mr. CHURCHWELL rose to make an apology to the House for a breach of its decorum which he committed yesterday. He believed that those with whom he had been associated for the last few years, had been deceived in that he was not least respectful in his intercourse with the members of the body.

The SPEAKER requested the gentlemen who were present to resume their seats, otherwise disorder would be the consequence.

Mr. CHURCHWELL resumed, saying he hoped always to be found among those who desire to make every effort to preserve the order and decorum of the body.

Mr. CULLOM next rose. He regretted that the unexpected and unprovoked attack upon him yesterday may have precipitated him into any violent or disrespectful remarks. He said he had endeavored, during his service here, to maintain kindly relations to the members of this House, and to observe the punctilious rights of all and the rights of the majority. He said he had violated the rules of the House, he asked permission to assure gentlemen it was out of no disrespect to this high forum. But the ebullition which he discovered in the exhibition of a deadly instrument, in connection with the remarks to which he felt justified in responding.

Mr. McMULLEN did not wish to interrupt the gentleman, but he rose to a question of order. [Cries of "Oh, no!"]

The SPEAKER remarked that the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. CULLOM] had taken his seat. Mr. McMULLEN said that the announcement which had been made to the House, that the gentleman from Tennessee, was somewhat unexpected to him. He did not mean to say that he did not cherish the expectation and hope that those gentlemen would, each of them, set the example as well to their own character and honor as to the dignity of the House, to tender apologies, such as those they had just made to the House, for the disorder of yesterday. But as he had given notice of his purpose to call attention to a question of privilege, he deemed it due as well to himself as to the House to indicate the course which he should pursue to prevent the recurrence of scenes of this kind; and, therefore, he asked leave to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee of members be appointed to investigate the disorder which occurred yesterday, between Messrs. CHURCHWELL and CULLOM, of Tennessee, members of this House, and that they report thereon to the House.

Mr. MILLSON remarked that no one felt more than he did the painful necessity of bringing this matter before the House. However, once again, he said, he felt that it was his duty to do so, and he felt that he could do so without subjecting himself to the suspicion that he was moved by unworthy considerations. The use of warm words and threatening gestures is a breach of the

privileges of this House which none can doubt. It is of the greatest importance to the country at large that debates should be free; but if these debates should be tolerated many gentlemen, capable of shedding light on the subject before the House, would be restrained from an expression of their sentiments, by the apprehension of being drawn into occurrences of this kind. It was well said by a member of the British parliament, that a blow struck by the House was a blow at the commons of England.

He then quoted precedents both in England and the United States, showing that in all cases of disturbance in legislative bodies, the House was satisfied by the tenders of apology from its members charged with the disorderly conduct. Finding, then, that no further action had been taken in such cases, and as the gentlemen from Tennessee had each apologized, he, after consultation with friends, would withdraw the resolution.

Mr. ORR suggested an amendment, with a view of clothing the Speaker with additional authority to suppress personal difficulties.

Mr. MILLSON declined to accept of it, conceiving that the rule laid down in Jefferson's Manual, which had been adopted by the House, was sufficient for the purpose.

He had not thought necessary to say anything about the merits of the controversy. The House had nothing to do with them. They should confine themselves to what had occurred in the House. He would not say anything more.

Mr. McMULLEN thought that the subject should be investigated by a select committee, but, lest he should add to the flame, he would not insist on further action of the House.

Mr. BROOKS gave notice of the following amendment to the rules:

Resolved, That any member who brings into this House any subject which is excluded by a two-thirds vote [loud cries of "Good!"]

Resolved, That the sergeant at arms shall be charged with the duty of seeing that members who are added to the carrying of concealed weapons shall be required to place them before entering the hall; and that the sergeant at arms shall be charged with the duty of seeing that no member shall be allowed to enter the hall unless he is accompanied by a member of the House. The resolution was adopted.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message:

To the House of Representatives:

I